For Women Readers in Current Magazines

To mention the articles in the September *Ladies' Home Journal* in their sequence: Charles A. Selden writes of "Educating Illiterate America." We can accomplish this in ten years if we put our heads and hearts into it. Justifiable condemnation of public school defects has been having its innings since the conditions during and after the world war demonstrated that the United States was not an educated nation; it is in fact but 50 per cent. educated. Teachers' associations and national school conventions are among the country's educational blessings. The value of the Parent-Teachers' Association should also be mentioned. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, president of the Woman's Party, writes of "Women as Dictators." The end of the dictatorship by men alone is at an end. Women know that they can manage and reconstruct—men know it too. The day is not far distant when the Woman's Party will be strong enough to impose any measure it may choose. The world muddle has been created by men. "By excluding women men have interfered for too long with the development, interests and intelligence of humanity." Men are beginning to fear women. Sex discrimination must be done away, whether in the church or in politics, in the professions and in the business and laboring worlds.

Gifford Pinchot gives the man's view of the subject in "The Influence of Woman in Politics." Women have a part in political affairs, not a mere influence upon them. One fact is established, that women play a clean game in politics. The foundation of health and efficiency in human affairs is honesty and courage, and these are the qualities which women have brought into American public life. Mr. Pinchot has studied the progress of women in politics at close range, and his article has particular significance and value. A strictly feminine article is Lady Astor's "The False Gods of Fashions." A little sermon to girls may be found in Lady Astor's appeal to take more thought about the kind of clothes worn and a little less thought about changing them so often. Our men folk don't like us better for taking our fashions from manikins who are but animated display. Racks we need to cultivate our intelligence about clothes. Three gowns are pictured, one being the House of Commons frock that Lady Astor has chosen as suited to a hard working M. P. The two editorials are Barton W. Currie's "Wine Soaked Europe and Dry America," and "A World League of Women Can Prevent Wars," by Freemand Tilden. Other articles in this number are: "Let Me Say This for the Films," by Douglas Fairbanks; William Lyon Phelps's "Human Nature in the Bible" series, on "Wisdom and Philosophy"; "The Biggest Classroom in the World," by Josephine Daskam Bacon; "Why Grow Old," by Ethel Lloyd Patterson, and "Feeding the Baby," by Josephine Baker, M. D.

Vogue for September has its usual departments on Paris and New York fashions, with fashions seen on the stage and in the shops, and an article "New York Spends Halcyon Days at Newport."

One of the featured articles in the September *McCall's* is "What Men and Women Think of Each Other," by Fannie Hurst and Joseph Hergesheimer. Miss Hurst says men think less about women than they think they do—what they do think about is what women think of them. Man invests his mother, sweetheart or wife with the robes of sanctity, for man idealizes not women in general but woman in particular. "Blue eyes are easier to cope with than gray matter." Mr. Hergesheimer begins by saying that men think less about women than is commonly supposed. The nation as a man thinks very highly of women, "yet that ideal is as much in the sky as in their hearts." The common contention that men dislike an intelligent woman is true. Men want the vitality and the warmth of a woman, and when they get intelligence in place of it they feel cheated. Women are secretive—they keep their thoughts secret from men for their own good, from women for their own safety. And agreeing with Miss Hurst, Mr. Hergesheimer adds that men prefer blonde heads rattling with emptiness.

An American travel story in this number of *McCall's* is "Two Women Cross Death Valley in a Wagon." The women are Mrs. Roger G. Perkins and Mrs. Edward S. Jordan of Cleveland. Death Valley is in the heart of the Mojave Desert, and Edna Brush Perkins, who signs the article, says: "Every day from 10 o'clock in the morning until 4 in the afternoon we existed in a blind stupor during our trip." Yet these women persisted in their experience and successfully crossed the entire valley. The outfit consisted of a white mule and a thin red horse attached to a ramshackle open wagon.

Also in this number of *McCall's* Gene Stratton-Porter writes of "Women's Clothes To-day Sanest Ever Worn in History," and expresses the wish that women should be satisfied with less expensive and less extreme fashions. Elsie Waterbury Morris warns "Women of 50, Take Stock!" Women of 50 have arrived at what should prove to be the most interesting period of their life and mature beauty should have a quality all its own.

A girl mayor is a novelty in any place, but a girl mayor who has never been a suffragette is more so. Marion Hall tells of such a character in "The Girl Mayor of Fairport," in the September *Success*. This young mayor is a practicing physician in this Ohio town, and she won her election on an anti-saloon platform. In her own laboratories she makes chemical analyses of all liquor seized in raids. In this number Ruth White Colton gives her experiences of two weeks in the vest shop of the famous "Golden Rule Nash" factory in Cincinnati, and calls her article "Alias Hattie Clark." Ada Patterson tells *Success* readers some interesting things about "Munsey and His Ambitions," his newest ambition being to build the highest building in the world, "Most of you know me as the Man Upstairs," says Mr. Munsey, "who thinks up troublesome new plans," . . . I should have liked to be the head of a family. Your children are your monument. . . . I, too, will have a monument. But it will be of cold steel and chilly bricks and lifeless mortar."

Women readers can learn from Elizabeth Frazer's articles in *Good Housekeeping*. In the September number the subject is "A Political Forecast," and the American woman is compared to John Bunyan's Christian when he set forth on his journey. It is a pilgrimage and women are valiantly struggling onward. Engaging in politics does not defeminize women as hard shelled reactionaries feared. Witness Lady Astor, mother of six! The women's organizations have every reason to believe that it was through their efforts that the Davenport bill, which is a State substitute for the Sheppard-Towner Enabling Act, was passed. Women's influence cannot be felt at once, or within five or ten years. "It is an affair of generations, of cycles."

Another article of value in this number of *Good Housekeeping* is "The Truth About Child Labor," by Raymond G. Fuller. To plan the deliverance of America's children from the labor that destroys calls for something besides sympathy. We must approach the problem of child labor with a freshness of view. There is poor enforcement of child labor laws in many States, but the condition of twenty years ago do not exist to-day in factories or mines. The article gives a history of child labor legislation since 1836, with concrete suggestions for reform. In Frances Parkinson Keyes's "Letters from a Senator's Wife," in this number, she describes the Child Labor Conference and its significance to the world. Montrose Moses tells of the thrills that came to him in gardening and calls his article "Stealing Gardens." According to Mr. Moses stealing a rose from your neighbor is quite permissible. "Sweetness should not be centered in one place; it should be spread to other gardens, just as a book should be put in circulation."

"The nose of Cleopatra—if it had been shorter the history of the world would have been changed," Brander Matthews quotes from Pascal in his essay "On the Length of Cleopatra's Nose" in *Scribner's* for September. The writer doubts, however, whether Cleopatra's nose or even Cleopatra herself had really the immense importance that Pascal asserted. Although Cleopatra was the Serpent of the Old Nile she was not an Egyptian but a Greek; "she was a hyphenated queen—which is what queens usually are." Prof. Matthews touches upon many other remote causes that have had unexpected consequences in history and gives the Gentle Reader some new thoughts to play with. John Corbin contributes a second paper on "The Return of the Middle Class" in this number and calls it "The Valiant Woman." Equality between the sexes Mrs. Catt is quoted as defining thus: "An equal chance to express whatever either is capable of expressing." Alice Paul thinks that the present subjection of women consists in the lack of recognized jobs, which results in inferior earning power. Mr. Corbin covers important points in the history of men and women. "Democracy as we practice it is an instrument of amazing aptitude for the extinction of ability, of liberty. . . . Fundamentally the issue is biologic; its psychological aspect is secondary and its economic aspect tertiary. The ultimate stake is the freedom not merely of our women but of our nation."

In *McClure's* for September Laurette Taylor writes amusingly of herself in "Living and Play-Acting." As a child she was a fearful little liar, and she thought everything belonged to her. She tried stenography for a while, but office routine did not appeal to her. She played in stock in Seattle, then came East and appeared in "The Bird of Paradise." She has acted the part of *Peg* 1,120 times, and it has had 6,608 performances in the United States alone. Miss Taylor gave a special performance of "Peg o' My Heart" for Sarah Bernhardt, and her reward came in this tribute: "One young artist in New York has not allowed herself to be blinded. She has worked hard and is still working, although she is already a very agreeable comedienne, possessing humor, emotion and—a rare thing for her age—power."

Harper's Bazar for September brings its usual flavor of Paris frocks and fancies. Baron de Meyer writes "Paris Gossip by a Mere Man." Donald Ogden Stewart contributes his fourth paper on "A Nonsense Book of Etiquette," "The Etiquette of Games and Sports." "The picture play has reached its majority. No longer may it fall back on the excuse that it is a youthful art," say Frederic and Fanny Hatton in "The Super-Cinema," a beautifully illustrated article, also in this number.

"To originate, to work wholly without tradition, as though no art had ever existed before in the world, seems to be the intention of the modern school of art in middle Europe," according to Giles Edgerton in "Modern French and Viennese Decoration" in the September *House and Gardens*. Other articles in this number are Caroline Duer's "Decorative Panels," "Tapestries in the Decorative Scheme," by Phyllis Ackermann; "Collecting Engraved Gems," by Gardner Teall, and "The Villa Dante Alighieri," by Robert Carrere and Morgan Heiskell. The former home of the divine poet is still preserved as a thirteenth century Italian manor house.

There is a woman in Chicago who started a second floor cafeteria twelve years ago, when she was past fifty. To-day, as president and chief owner of the Ontra Corporation, she conducts three restaurants and feeds 75,000 people a week. Allison Gray tells about her in the *American* for September in an article entitled "Miss Dutton Knows What You Like to Eat." To-day we eat less meat and more vegetables, salad and dessert. The latter may be due to prohibition. Quite a different woman is Carrie Holt, about whom Allan Harding tells us in "The Joys and Sorrows of a Circus Fat Lady." Miss Holt weighs 486 pounds, with a bust measure of eighty-four inches and a hip measure of almost twelve feet. She says she has broken everything but the Ten Commandments, but she does not have to worry about getting fat. It seems that many people like fat ladies, and Miss Holt confesses to a good many admirers, who send her flowers and candy and who buy her photograph.

W. McD. Tait writes about Blanche Garrison, "The First Girl Cow Puncher on the Red Deer Range," also in the *American*. Miss Garrison went into the cattle industry with one $6 calf; to-day she owns enough stock in her own name to make her financially independent. She has ridden 800 miles of range in one day. As F. Scott Fitzgerald has a particular following among women, it may be well to call attention to his article, also in this number, "What I Think and Feel at 25," while a Private Secretary, who has been with one employer six years, confesses to "Things I Wish My Employer Would Not Do." Employers, take notice.

Authors' Works And Their Ways

It has been the fashion to deride the Second Empire, as it has been the fashion to belittle Napoleon III. Philip Guedalla in his work entitled "The Second Empire," soon to be published by the Putnams, does much to rescue the memory of Napoleon and that neglected period from the defamatory legends by which they have been crowded.

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Princess Bibesco, who was Miss Elizabeth Asquith, is almost as familiar with French literature as she is with English literature. It is for this reason that she has been asked to write an introduction to the English and American edition of a forthcoming book. It is the memoirs of the Comtesse de Brigode, who was Princess de Chimay, a distinguished figure in the fashionable and political life of her generation.

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A brother author on meeting M. Pierre Loti for the first time asked him if he had read a certain book of Bourget's. "No," he replied, "but then, you see, I never read. I have never read anything, not even Chateaubriand, though he has been called my master." "But," exclaimed the other man, "surely you've read Montaigne, Moliere, La Fontaine?" "Not one of them. Only a good deal of the Bible as a boy, and since I grew up a few of my friends' books."

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The Government of the United States has just extended formal recognition to the three small republics bordering the Baltic Sea, Esthonia, Latvia and Lithuania, that were carved by revolution out of Russian territory after the second Russian revolution. The story of the struggles and successes of the peoples of those countries in their determination to achieve statehood is told in a book by Arthur Ruhl, called "The New Masters of the Baltic," which the Duttons published last year.

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Dr. Einstein himself gives warm praise to Herman Weyl's "Space—Time—Matter," just published in this country by E. P. Dutton & Co., wherein the German philosopher and mathematician speculates upon the possibility of applying Einstein's theories in new and daring ways. Dr. Einstein says that the work is "a comprehensive and excellent textbook which is to be warmly recommended to mathematicians and physicists interested in the theory of relativity." The work as published by the Duttons is translated by an English writer from its fourth German edition.

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